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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/821,772	03/30/2001	Lisa M. Firestone	57020-012	5180

7590 02/28/2005

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY  
600 13th Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20005-3096

EXAMINER
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GRAYSAY, TAMARA L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3623

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/821,772

Applicant(s)

FIRESTONE, LISA M.

Examiner

Tamara L. Graysay

Art Unit

3623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 July 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

1. The drawings are objected to because of the following:
  - a. The font used for Fig. 4, 5A-C, 6A-D, 9A-D, and 13A-C is too small.
  - b. Reference character 105 is depicted in Fig.2, however, it is not mentioned in the specification.
  - c. Reference characters 212, 214, and 216 are depicted in Fig.3, however, they are not mentioned in the specification.
  - d. Reference character 460 is depicted in Fig.5C, however, it is not mentioned in the specification.
  - e. Reference character 530 in Fig.6B, is used to depict both if the recipient received any job training and the type of training. However, the specification at P.9, L.19, mentions reference characters 530 and 532, respectively, for the two elements.
  - f. Reference character 532 is used to depict a selection list to answer the reason for leaving question in Fig.6B, however, the specification at P.9, L.19 mentions that reference character 532 is supposed to depict the type of training and reference character 538 is supposed to depict the reason for leaving.
  - g. Reference character 570 in Fig.6D lacks a lead line.
  - h. Fig.9A depicts a screen to “enter a new job application” and Fig.8, box 702 reads, “enter a new job listing;” however, the specification (P.11, L.17) describes the screen to “enter a new job position.” Applicant is required to confirm that the job application, job position, and job listing are in fact the same, and use consistent terminology.

Art Unit: 3623

- i. Fig.9A, the word Hello is misspelled at the left half of the figure.
- j. Reference character 200 is used to depict both the block diagram of employee recruitment, job matching and job placement system in Fig.3 and the block diagram of various parties involved in matching a potential employee with a potential employer in Fig.11. The specification should be amended to reflect any changes made to the drawing figures.
- k. Reference characters 10 (or 10') and 1002 are both used to depict a client / case worker. See Fig. 3, 11; P.12, L.26, 33; etc.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### *Specification*

2. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required:

- a. system configured to determine public assistance eligibility, as recited in claim 15;
- b. system configured to determine Medicaid eligibility, as recited in claim 16; and

Art Unit: 3623

- c. system configured to determine gap insurance eligibility, as recited in claim 17; are not provided with proper antecedent basis in the specification. New matter should not be entered.
3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
- a. P.5, L.16, 902 should be 102.
  - b. P.5, L.32, 906 should be 106.
  - c. Generally, acronyms should be spelled out at least at their first occurrence: CD-ROM, DVD, PROM, EPROM, FLASH-EPROM (p.6); PCP (p.8); NCCI (p.13).
  - d. P.8, L.20, "... to the if the ..." does not make sense.
  - e. P.12, L.11, 606 should be 706 as depicted in Fig.8.
  - f. P.12, L.13, 608 should be 708 as depicted in Fig.8.
  - g. P.13, L.31, 1002 should be 202.
  - h. Reference character 1012 is described as both the "department of public assistance" (P.14, L.3) and the "primary care providers" (elsewhere in the specification and Fig.11).
  - i. P.14, L.9, parties is misspelled.
  - j. P.16, L.29, 1308 should be 1310 (see Fig.14).
  - k. P.16, L.30, 1306 should be 1308 (see Fig.14).
  - l. P.17, L.4, 1310 should be 1312 (see Fig.14).

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Objections***

4. Claim 22, line 3, "received" has been interpreted to be receive.
5. A claim which depends from a dependent claim should not be separated by any claim which does not also depend from said dependent claim. In the present application claim 20 is separated from claim 14 by claims 18 and 19, which depend upon claim 8, not claim 14. It should be kept in mind that a dependent claim may refer to any preceding independent claim. Applicant's sequence will not be changed. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112, first paragraph***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

6. Claims 6, 7, 20-22, 29, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

The specification, P.12, L.13-20, describes the step of notifying an employer that a job is logged as "on-hold" and the employer is contacted to schedule an interview time. The notification is in the form of email, or other methods, and contains information such as the potential employee's name, the system number, the employer job number, the interview time requested, and that the employer account has been charged. The specification is not clear what is meant by the term "on-hold" (i.e., what is held) because the description of the "on-hold" step, if there is an on-hold step as recited in the claims, is merely a step of notifying the employer of

Art Unit: 3623

certain information, as described in the specification at P.12, L.13-20. Therefore, the claims, as recited, have been broadly interpreted as the step of notifying (claims 6, 7, 29, and 30) or the system further configured to notify (claims 20-22) the employer that there is a request for an interview.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101*

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

7. Claims 1-7, 11, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

For a claimed invention to be statutory, the claimed invention must produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result within the technological arts.

*Claims 1-7*

a. The claimed invention must produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. In the present application, the claimed invention produces a “list” comprising at least one job based on the comparison of the information for the potential employee to the position information. The list is a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

The claimed invention must be within the technological arts. Mere ideas in the abstract that do not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts fail to promote the “progress of science and the useful arts” and therefore are found to be nonstatutory subject matter. For a process claim to pass muster, the recited process must somehow apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts. Mere nominal use of a component albeit within the technological arts, does not confer statutory subject matter to an

otherwise abstract idea if the component is not applied, involved, used, or advanced by the underlying process. In the present application, the claim preamble includes recitation of a field of use (over a network) rather than a positive recitation of technological arts. Considering the claim as a whole, the body of the claim recites the steps of receiving potential employee information, comparing the information with potential employer information, and displaying a listing based on the comparison.

With the possible exception of claim 7, the claims do not limit the steps to the technological arts, but rather each of the receiving, comparing, and displaying steps that can be performed in the mind of one performing the method, or by use of pencil and paper. The steps constitute an abstract idea of how to determine a suitable potential job for a potential employee, rather than actually performing the method by applying, involving, using, or advancing the technological arts.

Regarding claim 7, taking the claimed subject matter as a whole, the step of sending an email message is considered a nominal recitation of technology, insufficient to render the claim statutory. The method does not positively recite any technological art or interrelated structure that would enable the step to be performed.

In conclusion, claims 1-7 produce a concrete, useful, and tangible result, however, the claims do not involve the technological arts. Therefore, process claims 1-7 are directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

#### *Claim 11*

b. A claim including a human being in its scope is nonstatutory subject matter. The claim recites “a primary care provider” which in its broadest reasonable interpretation



includes a person (an insurer, or a physician, for example). The claim as a whole, read in light of the specification and given its broadest reasonable interpretation, includes a human being in its scope. A claim directed to a human being is nonstatutory subject matter. Therefore, claim 11 is directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

*Claim 31*

c. The claimed invention must produce a useful, concrete, and tangible result. In the present application, the claimed invention produces a “list” comprising at least one job based on the comparison of the information for the potential employee to the position information. The list is a useful, concrete, and tangible result.

The claimed invention must be within the technological arts. Mere ideas in the abstract that do not apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts fail to promote the “progress of science and the useful arts” and therefore are found to be nonstatutory subject matter. For a process claim to pass muster, the recited process must somehow apply, involve, use, or advance the technological arts. In the present application, the claim preamble recites “doing business by acting as an intermediary” which is described in the specification as a person (case worker, for example). The claim as a whole, read in light of the specification and given its broadest reasonable interpretation, includes a human being in its scope. A claim directed to a human being is nonstatutory subject matter.

Moreover, the body of the claim recites the steps of receiving potential employee information, comparing the information with potential employer information, and displaying a listing based on the comparison. The recited process steps do not apply,

Art Unit: 3623

involve, use, or advance the technological arts, but rather are an abstract idea that can be performed in the mind of one performing the method, or by use of pencil and paper. The steps constitute an idea of how to determine a suitable potential job for a potential employee, rather than actually performing the method by applying, involving, using, or advancing the technological arts.

In conclusion, claim 31 produces a concrete, useful, and tangible result, however, the claim includes a human being in its scope and does not involve the technological arts. Therefore, process claim 31 is directed to nonstatutory subject matter.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-3, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Freeman (article, Firm: impaired doesn't mean impossible).

a. Regarding claims 1-3, Freeman discloses a method for matching potential employees with potential employers comprising the steps of: receiving information about the potential employee including skill requirements (electrical engineer is the example used) and social needs (possible physical barrier of blindness, for example) and physical health information (blindness) of the potential employee; comparing the received information with position information (United Technologies position requirements, inherent in the reference, for example); and displaying a job list based on the comparison (Kidder

Art Unit: 3623

regularly calls on corporations, finding out what their hiring needs are, and sends resumes for consideration and comparison to position information), it is inherent that the contacts made with the potential employee as a result of the comparison comprises the step of displaying a list, as broadly recited in claim 1.

b. Regarding claim 31, Freeman discloses an intermediary (Kidder) acting between potential employees and potential employers comprising the steps of: receiving information about potential employees including skill requirements (electrical engineer is the example used) and social needs (possible physical barrier of blindness, for example) and physical health information (blindness) of the potential employee; comparing the received information with position information (United Technologies position requirements, inherent in the reference, for example); and displaying a job list based on the comparison (Kidder regularly calls on corporations, finding out what their hiring needs are, and sends resumes for consideration and comparison to position information), it is inherent that the contact made with the potential employee as a result of the comparison comprises the step of displaying a list, as broadly recited in claim 31.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman (article, Firm: impaired doesn't mean impossible) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hartman (US-5758324).

- a. Hartman teaches a method for matching potential employees with potential employers by using a relevancy ranking that identifies potential employees who are not an exact match for a particular position offered by the potential employer. The ranking inherently includes a matching percentage insofar as the relevancy ranking takes into consideration the best matches, even if there is no potential employee who is an exact match to the potential employer's job listing.
- b. Regarding claim 5, Freeman discloses generating a job placement plan insofar as Kidder asked personnel executives what they were looking for in new employees and what she could do to help increase the eventual job-placement expectations of potential employees (in this case, children with physical disabilities, and what corporations are looking for as established by the advisory council). It is inherent in traditional position information of potential employers includes training needs or requirements as part of the expectation that a potential employer would have regarding a potential employee.
- c. Regarding claim 6, Freeman discloses contacting the employer when a potential employee is matched with a position. At the time the invention was made, it was well known that job positions would be filled following an interview of a potential employee. Thus, the position was on hold, as broadly recited, in response to a request for interview.

Art Unit: 3623

d. Regarding claim 7, the use of email and telephone were considered equivalent forms of communication in the business community at the time the invention was made.

10. Claims 8-10, 13, 14, and 18-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman (article, Firm: impaired doesn't mean impossible).

Generally, Freeman lacks a computer-readable medium bearing instructions to perform the method of matching. It is well settled that it is not "invention" to broadly provide a mechanical or automatic means to replace manual activity that has accomplished the same result. *In re Venner*, 120 USPQ 192 (CCPA 1958). That is to say, providing a mechanical or automatic means to replace a manual activity that accomplished the same result is not sufficient to distinguish over the prior art that discloses the manual activity. In the present application, applicant has provided an automatic or computerized means for executing the matching process in order to accomplish the same result as disclosed in Freeman, i.e., matching a potential employee with a potential employer and tracking any follow-up with the employee or employer.

a. Regarding claims 8-10, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Freeman to include a system comprising a network and server computer configured for matching a potential employee with a potential employer, as recited in claims 8-10, 13, and 14, in order to make automatic, that which was previously manual thereby expediting the process of matching potential employees for positions with potential employers and tracking any follow-up with the employee and employer.

b. Regarding claims 13-14, whether the list is sent via telephone (as disclosed in Freeman) or via computer is not a patentable distinction. The computer was a well-

ordinary skill in the art, to use a client or employee computer for accessing the information.

c. Regarding claim 18, the list includes occupational requirements and educational requirements as discussed in Freeman.

d. Regarding claim 19, the claimed limitation of occupational requirements received from a labor department type of office is inherent in Freeman insofar as Freeman includes occupational requirements from the human resources department of the potential employer, a type of labor department, as broadly recited.

e. Regarding claim 20, Freeman discloses contacting the employer when a potential employee is matched with a position. At the time the invention was made, it was well known that job positions would be filled following an interview of a potential employee. Thus, the position was on hold, as broadly recited, in response to a request for interview.

f. Regarding claims 21 and 22, the use of email and telephone were considered equivalent forms of communication in the business community at the time the invention was made; therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the Freeman system to include sending and receiving email rather than telephone contact.

g. Regarding claim 23, whether the position information is sent via telephone (as disclosed in Freeman) or via computer is not a patentable distinction. The computer was a well-known expedient at the time of the invention and it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, to use an employer computer for entering the position information.

h. Regarding claims 24-26, therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Freeman to include a system comprising a computer-readable medium having instructions for matching a potential employee with a potential employer, as recited in claims 24-26, and 28, in order to make automatic, that which was previously manual thereby expediting the process of matching potential employees for positions with potential employers and tracking any follow-up with the employee and employer.

11. Claims 11 and 15-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman (article, Firm: impaired doesn't mean impossible) as applied to claims 10 and 14 above, and further in view of Gonzales (article, Goodwill branches into job-finding agency in Colorado Springs).

a. Regarding claim 11, Gonzales teaches a job-finding agency that considers medical benefits of a potential employer. When considering medical benefits that are appropriate for a potential employee, the job-finding agency would need physical and behavioral health information of the potential employee. Whether that information were provided by the employee or the provider would not be a patentable distinction over the structure that is positively recited in the claim, i.e., a system for providing information over a network, as broadly recited. The particular type of information does not impart patentability to an otherwise unpatentable feature. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Freeman, such as suggested by Gonzales, to include various types of information in the Freeman system, including information about the physical and behavioral health of the potential employee.

Art Unit: 3623

- b. Regarding claim 15, Gonzales teaches a job-finding agency that includes making a determination as to whether a potential employee is eligible for public assistance insofar as the clients are in some cases welfare clients who may continue to receive benefits.
- c. Regarding claim 16, although Gonzales is silent as to the particular type of public assistance, Medicaid eligibility is a known type of public assistance for welfare clients.
- d. Regarding claim 17, Gonzales teaches the considerations of medical benefits by a potential employer and potential part-time or full-time employee. Considerations include medical benefits as well as paid administrative leave. It would go to follow that the Gonzales job matching system would include information about gap insurance for which an employee may be eligible. In fact, Medicaid can be considered gap insurance insofar as the embodiment in which a temporary employee is not entitled to medical benefits of an employer until 500 hours of work has been completed. During that gap in time until medical benefits are vested Medicaid may cover the temporary employee medical insurance needs. Thus Medicaid can be “gap insurance” for the temporary employee.

12. Claims 12, and 27-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freeman (article, Firm: impaired doesn't mean impossible), as applied to claims 8 and 24 above, and further in view of Hartman (US-5758324).

- a. Hartman teaches a method for matching potential employees with potential employers by using a relevancy ranking that identifies potential employees who are not an exact match for a particular position offered by the potential employer. The ranking inherently includes a matching percentage insofar as the relevancy ranking takes into consideration



Art Unit: 3623

the best matches, even if there is no potential employee who is an exact match to the potential employer's job listing.

b. Regarding claim 28, Freeman discloses generating a job placement plan insofar as Kidder asked personnel executives what they were looking for in new employees and what she could do to help increase the eventual job-placement expectations of potential employees (in this case, children with physical disabilities, and what corporations are looking for as established by the advisory council). It is inherent in traditional position information of potential employers includes training needs or requirements as part of the expectation that a potential employer would have regarding a potential employee.

c. Regarding claim 29, Freeman discloses contacting the employer when a potential employee is matched with a position. At the time the invention was made, it was well known that job positions would be filled following an interview of a potential employee. Thus, the position was on hold, as broadly recited, in response to a request for interview.

d. Regarding claim 30, the use of email and telephone were considered equivalent forms of communication in the business community at the time the invention was made.

### *Conclusion*

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Stipanovich (US-5117353) teaches comparison of potential employees with job information from potential employers.
- Wilson (article, Job hunter's bargain of the century?) teaches a job placement program for disabled workers, P.2, last paragraph.

Art Unit: 3623

- Scheid (article, Employment of individuals with mental disabilities: business response to the ADA's challenge) teaches accommodation, training, etc. for employment of disabled employees (P.75, L.10 to P.76, L.1); job descriptions commensurate with job requirements to match description with disabled worker (P.78, second paragraph); and, external referral sources for disabled workers (P.82, last paragraph).
- Ko (abstract, The disability index analysis system via ergonomics, expert systems, and multiple attribute decision-making approaches) teaches evaluation of disabled workers and rehabilitation as part of a job placement plan.
- PR Newswire (article, Marriott's pathways to independence graduation) teaches an employer that provides training for potential employees who are on public assistance.
- M2 Presswire (article, Saskatchewan government: pilot project removes barriers to employment) teaches a recruiting service that matches potential employers, which provide on-the-job training, with potential employees who have a disability or barrier to employment.
- PR Newswire (article, Crestar Bank to lead Virginia business leadership network aimed at increasing employment of people with disabilities) teaches sharing information about employment opportunities and availability of potential employees with disabilities who are assisted by social service agencies.
- Chalker (article, Tooling up for ADA) teaches job descriptions reflecting minimum requirements and matching qualified potential employees with impairments.
- Wilhelm (article, Productive employment of the handicapped: compliance strategies for the Americans with Disabilities Act) teaches compliance with the ADA and ways to

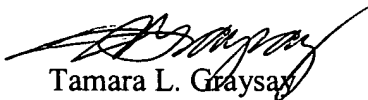
Art Unit: 3623

describe job requirements so that a potential employee who is matched with a job is able to determine whether he or she can perform the job and whether any accommodations are necessary.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tamara L. Graysay whose telephone number is (703) 305-1918. The examiner can normally be reached on Tue - Fri from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tariq Hafiz, can be reached on (703) 305-9643. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Tamara L. Graysay  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3623

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